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REMARKS

The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of objection

and/or rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition

for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully

requested.

Applicant asserts that the present invention is new, non-obvious and useful. Prompt

consideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-8 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 have been rejected. Claims 1, 2

and 5 have been amended.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 1-8 would be allowable if

rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1, 2 and 5 have been rewritten in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

Applicant respectfully asserts that this amendments do not narrow the scope of claims 1, 2

and 5.

Applicant respectfully asserts that the amendments to the claims, specification and

drawings add no new matter.

Remarks to the Drawings

Fig. 7B has been amended to match the specification, in accordance with the

Examiner's suggestion. The entire drawing sheet containing the corrected drawing is

enclosed for review by the Examiner.

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Remarks to the Specification

The amendments to the specification are editorial in nature and do not introduce new matter.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejections

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 Second Paragraph, as being indefinate for failing to particularly point out and disctictly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 2 and 5 have been amended to overcome the antecedent basis deficiencies noted by the Examiner. It is respectfully asserted that the foregoing amendment merely addresses matters of form and does not change the literal scope of the claim in any way or result in any prosecution history estoppel.

Applicant respectfully asserts that these amendments render claims 1-8 proper under 35 USC 112 and request that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the pending claims are deemed to be allowable. Their favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

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Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Please charge any fees associated with this paper to deposit account No. 50-3400.

Respectfully submitted,

Vladimir Sherman Attorney for Applicant

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Dated: July 13, 2005

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 7B. This sheet, which includes Figs. 7A and 7B, replaces the original sheet including Figs. 7A and 7B. In Figure 7B, one of the arrows pointing to box 621 has been reversed such that the one arrow now points to box 622.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

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CORRECTED DRAWING SHEET PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.121(d)

During Programming of a Set of Total Cells, Count and Store the Number of Cells Programmed Either Above or Below Each Program State 600 (e.g. check-sum # of cells below 01 = X, check-sum # of cells below 00 = Y, and check-sum # of cells below 10 = Z, etc..., where X+Y+Z + etc.=Total) During Reading of the Set of N NVM Cells, Compare the Number of Cells Found to Be in Each Given State (11,01, 610 00,11) Against the Stored Values (X,Y,Z, etc.) If Stored Values Don't Correspond With the Number of Cells Found in Each State During Reading, Adjust Read Verify 620 Threshold Levels To Compensate Accordingly

FIG. 7A

When Checking Number Of Cell's Found (e.g. Reading) in The Nth Program State (e.g. 2nd Program State), Compare the Number Found 621 Against [(check-sum # of cells below N+1th Program State) - (check-sum # of cells below Nth Program State)], Where the "check-sum#" Value For Each State Stored During Programming (See FIG. 6A). If Nth Program State Is the Highest Program State, Compare the Number Of Cell's Found in That State Against [(Total) - (check-sum # of cells below Nth Program State)] If Number Of Cell's Found in The Nth Program State Exceed the Compared To Value, Either Raise The Read Verify Threshold Value Associated With the Nth Program State or Lower the Read Verify Associated With the Next State (N+1) If Number Of Cell's Found in The Nth Program State Is Below the Compared To Value, Either Lower The Read Verify Threshold Value Associated With the Nth Program State or Raise the Read Verify Associated With the Next State (N+1) If Number Of Cell's Found in The Nth Program State Equals the Compared 622 4 To Value, Conclude Error Check For Nth Program State Cells